

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic device comprising:

a user interface including

a display for displaying text and

speech synthesizer means including a loudspeaker, which converts an input, dependent upon a text, to an audio output representative of a person reading the text; and

control means, for controlling the display and for providing an input to the speech synthesizer means, which controls the display of a text, to provide an input corresponding to the displayed text to the speech synthesizer, and to highlight a portion or portions of the displayed text, wherein initiation of the highlighting of a text portion is delayed by the control means ~~with respect to~~ until after the beginning of the audio output corresponding to the text portion.
2. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the control means synchronizes the highlighting with the conversion of text to audio output.
3. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control means varies the highlighting with the conversion of text to audio output.
4. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control means extends the highlighting through the displayed text with the conversion of text to audio output.
5. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 4 wherein the control means unselectively extends the highlighting through all of the text.

6. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the extending of highlighting through a text portion lags the conversion of the text portion to audio output by the delay.

7. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 4, wherein the highlighting extends discontinuously by portions of text corresponding to a word or words.

8. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control means highlights a text portion for a limited duration.

9. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 8 wherein the highlighting isolates a portion or portions of text from a body of text, the initiation of the isolation of text lagging the conversion of the text to audio output by the delay and the isolation being maintained for the limited duration.

10. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dimension of the highlighted portion is variable.

11. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the dimension of the highlighted portion is a constant number of words long.

12. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the display displays the full sentence of text being converted .

13. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the display displays the previous predetermined plurality of words that have been converted .

14. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a dictionary, wherein the control means highlights words not in the dictionary.

15. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 14, wherein the control means provides different highlighting for the words not in the dictionary.

16. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control means is arranged to identify proper nouns in the text, and highlight them.

17. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 16, wherein the control means provides different highlighting for the proper nouns in the text.

18. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the speech synthesizer means provides signals to the control means to effect the highlighting of specific words.

19. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 18 wherein the control means provides different highlighting to the specific words.

20. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein highlighting may comprise anyone of:

contrast variation of the text and/or display background;

color variation of the text and/or display background;

reformatting of the text including underscoring, bold font, italic font, capitalization, changing font size or type; and

enclosing text in geometric shapes.

21. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delay corresponds to a number of converted words or syllables.

22. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delay corresponds to a fixed time.

23. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delay is greater than 0.1 seconds.

24. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delay is less than 3 seconds.

25. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electronic device is a document reader or a hand-held communications device.

26. (Currently Amended) A hand-held radio communications device comprising :
a user interface including:

a display for displaying text and

speech synthesizer means including a loudspeaker, arranged to convert an input, dependent upon a text, to an audio output representative of a person reading the text; and control means for controlling the display and for providing an input to the speech synthesizer means, arranged to control the display of a text, to provide an input corresponding to the displayed text to the speech synthesizer, and to highlight a portion or portions of the displayed text, wherein initiation of the highlighting of a text portion is delayed by the control means ~~with respect to~~ until after the beginning of the audio output corresponding to the text portion.

27. (Currently Amended) A document reader comprising a user interface including:

a display for displaying text and

speech synthesizer means including a loudspeaker, arranged to convert an input, dependent upon a text, to an audio output representative of a person reading the text; and control means for controlling the display and for providing an input to the speech synthesizer means, arranged to control the display of a text, to provide an input corresponding to the displayed text to the speech synthesizer, and to highlight a portion or portions of the displayed text, wherein initiation of the highlighting of a text portion is delayed by the control means ~~with respect to~~ until after the beginning of the audio output corresponding to the text portion.

28. (Currently Amended) A car comprising:

a hand-held radio communications device which comprises:

a user interface which includes:

a display for displaying text, and

speech synthesizer means including a loudspeaker, arranged to convert an input, dependent upon a text, to an audio output representative of a person reading the text; and

control means for controlling the display and for providing an input to the speech synthesizer means, arranged to control the display of a text, to provide an input corresponding to the displayed text to the speech synthesizer, and to highlight a portion or portions of the displayed text, wherein initiation of the highlighting of a text portion is delayed by the control means ~~with respect to~~ until after the beginning of the audio output corresponding to the text portion, or

a document reader which comprises:

a user interface having:

a display for displaying text, and

speech synthesizer means including a loudspeaker, arranged to convert an input, dependent upon a text, to an audio output representative of a person reading the text; and

control means for controlling the display and for providing an input to the speech synthesizer means, arranged to control the display of a text, to provide an input corresponding to the displayed text to the speech synthesizer, and to highlight a portion or portions of the displayed text, wherein initiation of the highlighting of a text portion is delayed by the control means ~~with respect to~~ until after the beginning of the audio output corresponding to the text portion;

wherein the display is-mounted for use by the driver.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying text and providing speech synthesis of the text comprising the steps of:

displaying the text;

converting a text portion to audio output;
determining that the text portion should be highlighted;
delaying, until after the beginning of presentation of audio output, and then
highlighting the text portion.

31. (Currently Amended) An electronic device comprising :

a user interface including:

a display for displaying text and

speech synthesizer means including a loudspeaker, arranged to convert an input,
dependent upon a text, to an audio output representative of a person reading the text; and

control means, for controlling the display and for providing an input to the speech
synthesizer means, arranged to control the display of a text, to provide an input corresponding
to the displayed text to the speech synthesizer means, and to delay the initiation of the display
of a text portion ~~with respect to~~ until after the beginning of the audio output corresponding to
the text portion.

32. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying text and providing speech
synthesis of the text comprising the steps of:

converting a text portion to audio output;

delaying, until after the beginning of presentation of audio output,[[;]] and then
displaying the text.

33. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 31, wherein the delay is
greater than 0.1 seconds.

34. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the delay is
greater than 0.1 seconds.

35. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the control means varies the highlighting with the conversion of text to audio output.

36. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the extending of highlighting through a text portion lags the conversion of the text portion to audio output by the delay.

37. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the highlighting extends discontinuously by portions of text corresponding to a word or words.

38. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the highlighting extends discontinuously by portions of text corresponding to a word or words.

39. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 36, wherein the highlighting extends discontinuously by portions of text corresponding to a word or words.

40. (Currently Amended) A computer program executable in a processor of an electronic device having a display and speech synthesizer means including a loudspeaker, the computer program comprising a computer program code configuring the processor to provide control means, for controlling the display and for providing an input to the speech synthesizer means, which controls the display of a text, to provide an input corresponding to the displayed text to the speech synthesizer, and to highlight a portion or portions of the displayed text, wherein initiation of the highlighting of a text portion is delayed by the control means ~~with respect to~~ until after the beginning of the audio output corresponding to the text portion.